

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-14

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RSC-01 OIC-04 SS-20 AID-20 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4288

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

UNCLAS GENEVA 1273

FROM USDEL CND

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - TURKISH STATEMENT AT CND IN OPIUM POPPY BAN

1. ON ITEM 7 REPORT OF INCB AMBASSADOR KIRCA SPOKE AT LENGTH FOR TURKEY. HE THANKED BOARD FOR DESCRIPTION OF SITUATION IN TURKEY IN ITS 1973 REPORT AND FOR ITS 1972 VISIT, AND PARTICULARLY FOR 1973 REPORT RECOGNIZING DIFFICULT TASK WHICH HAS FALLEN ON TURKEY TO MAINTAIN BAN FOLLOWING ITS SOVEREIGN DECISION, WHICH HE REPEATED, TO END OPIUM PRODUCTION. THIS HAS BEEN A GREAT SACRIFICE FOR TURKISH PEASANTS WHO REQUIRE BOTH SHORT AND LONG-TERM HELP. KIRCA REVIEWED SHORT-TERM HELP TO IDEMNIFY FARMERS AND THEN DESCRIBED LONG-TERM APPROACH WHICH WOULD INCLUDE COMPLETE MODIFICATION OF ECONOMY OF POPPY GROWING REGION, SUBSEQUENTLY IDENTIFIED AS SEVEN PROVINCES WHERE POPPY CULTIVATION HAD BEEN MORE BASIC TO ECONOMY THAN IN OTHER GROWING AREAS. HE DESCRIBED ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHED TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM WHICH IS NOW READY FOR LAUNCHING. BRIEFLY PLAN WOULD RAISE FAMILY INCOME AND INVOLVE PROJECTS ACCEPTABLE TO PEASANTS.

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2. PILOT PROJECTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT. IN 365 FORMER POPPY-GROWING VILLAGES SEED OIL CROPS HAVE BEEN TESTED TO REPLACE POPPY SEED OIL. IN 600 VILLAGES ANIMAL-HUSBANDRY PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT TO INCREASE MEAT PRODUCTION OF REGION. NEW TYPES OF WHEAT HAVE BEEN TESTED IN 800 VILLAGES. DURING 1973 AND 1974 PILOT PROJECTS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT INVOLVING VEGETABLES, CORN, AND OATS.

3. REGIONAL PLAN WILL COST 11 BILLION TURK LIRA AND ALSO INCLUDES IRRIGATION PROJECTS, PRODUCTION OF CEREALS, CATTLE RAISING, REFORESTATION, MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, FISHING, HORTICULTURE, AND VINEYARD DEVELOPMENT.

4. ENDING OF POPPY CULTIVATION, WHICH WAS LABOR INTENSIVE, LEFT MUCH UNEMPLOYMENT IN REGION. ALSO POPPY WAS HARVESTED AND SOLD TO OPIUM MONOPOLY AT TIME OF YEAR WHEN FARMER HAD NO OTHER CROP TO SELL. POPPY WAS GROWN ON LAND WHICH IS NOT GOOD FOR OTHER CROPS. LAYING ASIDE GUM OPIUM, GROSS INCOME FROM POPPY LOST TO FARMERS MUST BE CONSIDERED.

5. KIRCA SAID BAN STARTED WITH GREAT GOOD WILL AND HAD SOME BILATERAL ASSISTANCE BUT OVER LONG TERM ENORMOUS DIFFICULTIES ARE FACING FARMERS. INFLATION HAS REDUCED VALUE OF INDEMNITIES AND REPLACEMENT PROGRAM HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO BRING RESULTS. THERE IS NOW A DEEP FEELING OF MISGIVING AND BITTERNESS IN SEVEN PROVINCE REGION. NATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION IS ASKING IS IT FAIR FOR TURKEY TO MAKE THIS SACRIFICE WHEN INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES HAVE FAILED TO BRING ILLICIT NARCOTIC TRAFFIC UNDER CONTROL AND ALSO FAIL TO BRING PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES UNDER CONTROL BY RATIFICATION BY PSYCHOTROPIC CONVENTION. TURKEY WANTS EQUITABLE TREATMENT AND SACRIFICE FOR ALL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT REMAIN DEAF TO TURKEY'S NEED FOR CONTINUED HELP.

6. KIRCA STATEMENT WILL BE TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH AND TRANSMITTED IN FULL ASAP. HIS REQUEST FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE APPEARS RELATED TO CLOSING WORDS OF TURK DEL SPOKESMAN ON UNFDAC AGENDA ITEM WHEN HE SAID TURKEY WOULD RESERVE ITS RIGHT TO ASK FOR ASSISTANCE FROM UNFDAC, BUT WOULD CONCENTRATE ON REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FOR ENFORCEMENT

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PROJECTS. DALE

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Message Attributes

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